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DCI/IC 77-6368
18 October 1977 STAT

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]
Special Assistant to the D/DCI/IC STAT

FROM: [redacted]
Director, Office of Policy and Planning

SUBJECT: Intelligence Definitions

1. Attached is a revised list of intelligence definitions which responds to Senator Huddleston's request dated 19 September 1977.

2. The revised list was discussed extensively by the Community representatives to the Definitions Working Group and, with a single exception, represents the consensus of that Group. In the case of the definition of "International Terrorist Activities," the Treasury representative asked that our definition include language similar to that found in the draft Executive Order pertaining to protectees of the Secret Service or the Department of State (Section 2(f)(2)). This suggestion was not accepted by the Group since the attached definition was thought to sufficiently cover such persons and that the inclusion would necessitate adding multiple lists of specific categories of people covered or not covered.

3. Due to the press of time, full coordination with NFIB principals was not possible. Should further modifications of these definitions occur prior to submission to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I will bring them to your attention as soon as possible.

4. The identification of COMINT, ELINT, etc., as colloquial terms reflects the fact that these refer to information and not to finished intelligence. STAT

[redacted]

Attachment
As stated

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DEFINITIONS OF INTELLIGENCE TERMS

INTELLIGENCE: A generic term which includes foreign intelligence and foreign counterintelligence. (See below.)

INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES: A generic term used to describe the efforts and endeavors undertaken by the departments, agencies, and elements comprising the Intelligence Community.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE (FI): The product of collection, processing, and analysis of foreign intelligence information relating to the national security, to the foreign relations or economic interests of the United States by a government agency that is assigned an intelligence mission.

FOREIGN COUNTERINTELLIGENCE: Intelligence activity, with its resultant product, devoted to countering the effectiveness of foreign intelligence activities and undertaken to protect the security of the United States, its personnel, information and installations against espionage, sabotage, and terrorism. Foreign counterintelligence does not include personnel, physical, document, or communications security programs.

TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE: That intelligence required by military commanders in the field to maintain the readiness of operating forces for combat operations and to support the planning and conduct of military operations under combat conditions.

INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTIVITIES: Terrorism is the calculated use of violence, or the threat of violence, to attain political goals through fear, intimidation or coercion. It usually involves a criminal act, often symbolic in nature, and is intended to influence an audience beyond the immediate victims. International terrorism is terrorism transcending national boundaries in the carrying out of the act, the purpose of the act, the nationalities of the victims, or the resolution of the incident. These acts are usually designed to attract wide publicity in order to focus attention on the existence, cause, or demands of the perpetrators.

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DEPARTMENT(AL) INTELLIGENCE: Foreign Intelligence produced and used within a governmental department or agency in order to meet unique requirements of the department or agency mission.

INTELLIGENCE-RELATED ACTIVITIES: Those military activities, specifically excluded from the Consolidated Defense Intelligence Program, which respond to operational commanders' tasking for time-sensitive information on foreign activities; respond to national Intelligence Community advisory tasking of systems whose primary mission is to support operating forces; train personnel for intelligence duties; or are devoted to research and development of intelligence or related capabilities. Intelligence-related activities do not include programs which are so closely integrated with a weapon system that their primary function is to provide immediate data for targeting purposes.

COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE (COMINT): Technical and intelligence information derived from intercept of foreign communications by other than the intended recipients. COMINT does not include the monitoring of foreign public media nor the intercept of oral or written communication intercepted during the course of foreign counterintelligence investigations within the United States. (This is a colloquial term.)

ELECTRONICS INTELLIGENCE (ELINT): Technical and intelligence information derived from foreign non-communications electromagnetic radiations emanating from other than atomic detonation or radioactive sources. (This is a colloquial term.)

FOREIGN INSTRUMENTATION SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE (FISINT): Information derived from the collection and processing of foreign telemetry, beaconry, and associated signals. (This is a colloquial term.)

SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE (SIGINT): A category of intelligence information comprising all Communications Intelligence, Electronics Intelligence, and Foreign Instrumentation Signals Intelligence, either individually or in combination, including as well non-imagery infra-red and coherent light signals. (This is a colloquial term.)

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NON-COMMUNICATIONS EMANATIONS: That class of radiations which are emitted intentionally or unintentionally by electrical or electronic equipments for purposes other than communications, e.g., by radars, navigational aids, jammers, or remote control systems.

UNITED STATES SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM: An entity that is comprised of the National Security Agency (including assigned military personnel); those elements of the military departments and the Central Intelligence Agency performing Signals Intelligence activities; and those elements of any other department or agency which may from time to time be authorized by the National Security Council to perform Signals Intelligence activities during the time when such elements are so authorized.

COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY (COMSEC): The protection resulting from the application of any measures taken to deny unauthorized persons information of value which might be derived from telecommunications or to ensure the authenticity of such telecommunications.

TRANSMISSION SECURITY (TRANSSEC): The component of Communications Security which results from all measures designed to protect transmissions from interception and from exploitation by means other than cryptanalysis.

EMISSION SECURITY (EMSEC): The component of Communications Security which results from all measures taken to deny to unauthorized persons information of value which might be derived from interception and analysis of compromising emanations from crypto-equipment and telecommunications systems.

PHYSICAL SECURITY: Physical measures--such as safes, vaults, perimeter barriers, guard systems, alarms and access controls--designed to safeguard installations against damage, disruption or unauthorized entry; information or material against unauthorized access or theft; and specified personnel against harm.

PERSONNEL SECURITY: The means or procedures, such as selective investigations, record checks, personal interviews, supervisory controls, designed to provide reasonable assurance that persons being considered for, or granted access to, classified information are loyal and trustworthy.

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CRYPTOSECURITY: The component of Communications Security that results from the provision of technically sound cryptosystems and from their proper use.

CRYPTOLOGIC ACTIVITIES: The activities and operations involved in the production of Signals Intelligence and the maintenance of Communications Security.

CRYPTOLOGY: The branch of knowledge which treats the principles of cryptography and cryptanalytics and is used to produce signals intelligence and maintain communications security.

CODE: A cryptosystem in which the cryptographic equivalents (usually called "code groups"), typically consisting of letters or digits (or both) in otherwise meaningless combinations, are substituted for plaintext elements such as words, phrases, or sentences.

CIPHER: A cryptosystem in which the cryptographic treatment (i.e., the method for transforming plain text by predetermined rules to obscure or conceal its meaning) is applied to plaintext elements (such as letters, digits, polygraphs or bits) which either have no intrinsic meaning or are treated without regard to their meaning (e.g., if the element is a natural-language word).

CRYPTOSYSTEM: All associated items of cryptomaterial (e.g., equipments and their removable components which perform cryptographic functions, operating instructions, maintenance manuals) that are used as a unit to provide a single means of encryption and decryption of plain text, so that its meaning may be concealed. (In addition, Code, Cipher, and Cryptographic System include any mechanical or electrical device or method used for the purpose of disguising, authenticating, or concealing the contents, significance, or meanings of communications.)

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES (NIEs): Thorough assessments of situations in the foreign environment that are relevant to the formulation of foreign, economic, and national security policy, and project probable future courses of action and developments. They are structured to illuminate differences of view within the Intelligence Community, and are issued by the Director of Central Intelligence with the advice of the National Foreign Intelligence Board.

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